



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Public Safety & Corrections • Public Safety Services

8181 Independence Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806

[www.lasfm.org](http://www.lasfm.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Chief Deputy Brant Thompson

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**PHONE:** 225-247-6251

## **K-9 Teams From Across U.S. Gather in South Louisiana for Annual Recertification**

**New Orleans, LA** – The State Fire Marshal’s Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) joined together this week to host the 2017 ATF Accelerant Detection Canine Recertification in the New Orleans metro area.

Fifty-one (51) Accelerant Detection Canine teams travelled from as far away as Oregon and Maine to participate in the week-long event that includes an exacting and grueling, scenario-based testing format that teams must pass with 100% accuracy in odor recognition to secure their certifications.

A segment of the event included a “Top Dog” competition, which comprised the scoring of teams in a number of different categories.

The winning team of this year’s “Top Dog” competition was State Fire Marshal’s Office Lt. Brian Mashon and his canine partner Monty, who, along with the other teams, were recognized Thursday evening during a New Orleans Baby Cakes baseball game.

ATF canines are highly efficient at detecting trace amounts of a variety of ignitable liquids that could be used to start a fire. Since 1990, the ATF has trained over 250 accelerant detection canines that are being utilized throughout the United States in dozens of local, state, and federal departments.

The event continues through Saturday evening.

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Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**

**2017 ATF Accelerant Detection Canine Recertification**

(April 3 – 8, 2017)



An accelerant detection canine handler bringing his canine through a testing course.

**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**



An accelerant detection canine handler watching his canine examine a can.

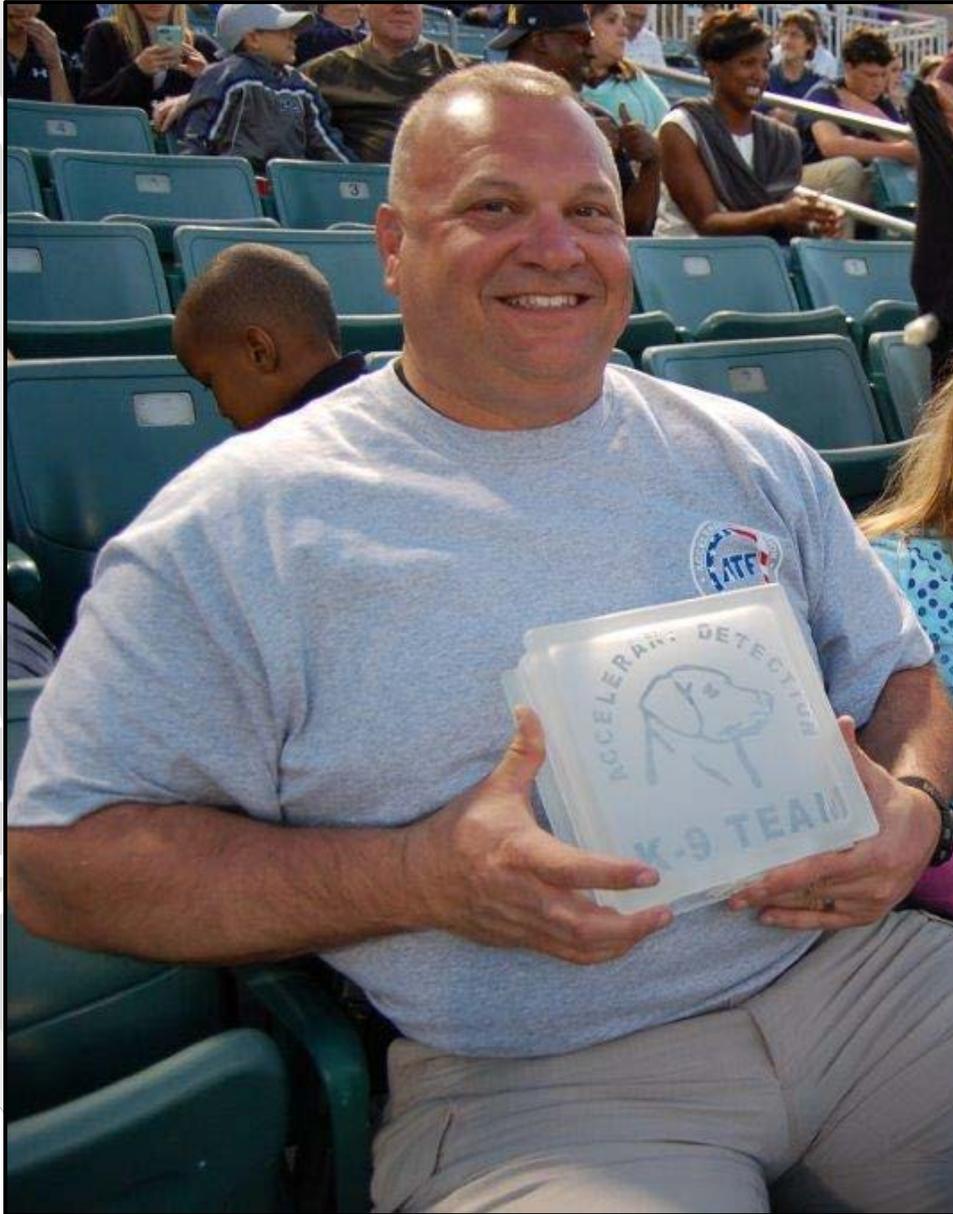
**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**



An accelerant detection canine handler bringing his canine through an outside testing course.

Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal

**NEWS RELEASE – ADDENDUM**



Louisiana State Fire Marshal Lt. Brian Mashon holding the “Top Dog” award.